

Utilities and Energy

PUBLIC 9 **An Act to Amend the Energy Resources Council Membership** **LD 238**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCKEE BRYANT	OTP	

Public Law 2003, chapter 9 expands the membership of the Energy Resources Council to include the Commissioner of Conservation.

PUBLIC 45 **An Act To Require Review of Utility Rates Prior to Approval of Alternative Rate Plans** **LD 371**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BLISS HALL	OTP-AM	H-85

Public Law 2003, chapter 45 requires the Public Utilities Commission to conduct a rate review ensuring the justness of rates before authorizing or reauthorizing a price cap plan for a natural gas or a transmission and distribution utility. The law allows the Public Utilities Commission to conduct the reviews in a manner that limits the costs to ratepayers.

PUBLIC 48 **An Act To Eliminate Potential Restrictions to the Establishment of** **LD 776**
EMERGENCY **an Alternative Form of Regulation for Some Telephone Utilities**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BLISS HALL	OTP	

Public Law 2003, chapter 48 repeals a section of law that provides for certain procedural requirements if the Public Utilities Commission concludes a proceeding establishing an "alternative form of regulation" for a telephone utility before certain dates in 1995 and 1996. Repealing this clarifies that the commission may establish an alternative form of regulation for telephone utilities for which the commission has not yet established an alternative form of regulation.

Public Law 2003, chapter 48 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 17, 2003.

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**PUBLIC 70 An Act Restricting Telemarketers from Blocking Their Telephone
Numbers When Making Solicitation Calls**

LD 331

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DOUGLASS	OTP-AM MAJ	S-15
HUTTON	ONTP MIN	

Public Law 2003, chapter 70 requires intrastate telemarketers to transmit or cause to be transmitted the telephone number and, when made available by the telemarketer's carrier, the name of the telemarketer to any caller identification service in use by a recipient of a telemarketing call. The Federal Trade Commission has recently adopted by rule a similar provision relating to interstate telemarketing calls under the FTC's jurisdiction. Full compliance with the federal rule provision is not required until January 29, 2004; this Maine provision is effective on the same date.

**PUBLIC 101 An Act To Promote Affordable Telephone Service for Business and
EMERGENCY Residential Customers in Rural Maine**

LD 265

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HALL	OTP-AM	S-21
GROSE		

Public Law 2003, chapter 101 requires the Public Utilities Commission to balance the potentially conflicting access rate and toll rate policies. The law provides for a 2-year delay in the reduction of intrastate access rates to the interstate level as of January 1, 2003. The amendment also provides that if further reductions occur in interstate access rates, the commission may further reduce intrastate access rates provided that in any 2-year period the further reductions do not result in an increase of more than 50% in the price of local telephone service or in the collection rate for the state universal service fund.

Public Law 2003, chapter 101 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 2, 2003.

PUBLIC 124 An Act To Enhance Homeland Security

LD 724

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCKEE	OTP-AM MAJ	H-131
TREAT	ONTP MIN	

Public Law 2003, chapter 124 clarifies that confidential information in E-9-1-1 databases that is required to be disclosed to providers of emergency services and providers of emergency support services pursuant to 47 United States Code, Section 222(g) remains subject to existing confidentiality provisions and that a provider of emergency services and emergency support services that acquires such confidential information pursuant to that provision of federal law may use the information solely for the purposes of delivering or assisting in the delivery of emergency notification services. The amendment also provides that the name, address and telephone number

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of any person to whom any outgoing emergency notification ("reverse 911") call is made using confidential information acquired pursuant to 47 United States Code, Section 222(g) are confidential in the same manner as that information in the E-9-1-1 database.

PUBLIC 141 An Act To Allow Consumer-owned Utilities To Purchase Power at LD 1030
Negotiated Wholesale Rates, Terms and Conditions

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MURPHY	OTP-AM	H-124
HATCH PH		

Public Law 2003, chapter 141 provides explicit permission for consumer-owned transmission and distribution utilities to enter into wholesale power purchase agreements for the purpose of providing retail generation service within their service territories and clarifies that a consumer-owned transmission and distribution utility that purchases power at wholesale for resale to its customers must comply with the portfolio and information disclosure requirements applicable to competitive electricity providers.

PUBLIC 147 An Act To Amend the Standard Water District Enabling Act LD 804

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HALL	OTP-AM MAJ	S-51
	ONTP MIN	

Public Law 2003, chapter 147 does the following:

1. It clarifies that the registrar of a standard water district must keep a list of all registered voters within the district;
2. It removes a provision of law relating to water district trustee compensation that requires that such compensation be specified in the bylaws and be for meetings attended and reimbursement for expenses; under the new provision trustee compensation is set by the trustees as approved by the municipal officers of the municipalities;
3. It allows a water district to increase its debt limit through a referendum procedure; and
4. It imposes a lien on property served by water districts to secure payment for unpaid rates.

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PUBLIC 151 An Act Regarding Energy Efficiency Standards

LD 1321

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ADAMS HALL	OTP-AM	H-179

Public Law 2003, chapter 151 updates Maine law pertaining to energy efficiency standards and indoor air quality. After January 1, 2004 new construction or substantial renovations of conditioned space in residential buildings of more than 2 dwelling units must conform to the 2001 ASHRAE standards.

PUBLIC 153 An Act To Clarify That All Companies Offering Telephone Services for Compensation, Including Switchless Resellers, Are Telephone Utilities

LD 775

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BLISS HALL	OTP-AM	H-125

Public Law 2003, chapter 153 clarifies that all persons offering telephone services for compensation, including so-called "switchless resellers," are telephone utilities. The law revises the definition of "telephone utility" by specifying that a telephone utility offers "telephone service", establishes a new definition of "telephone service", repeals the definition of "telephone line" and clarifies that the term "telephone utility" does not include entities excluded from the definition of "public utility."

PUBLIC 194 An Act To Provide Parity in Funding for Enhanced 9-1-1 Services

LD 771

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BLISS HALL	OTP-AM	H-217

Public Law 2003, chapter 194 provides that cellular and wireless telecommunications service providers may only receive reimbursement for eligible expenses related to the E-9-1-1 system if the provider does not separately bill customers for the expenses and the provider is not otherwise reimbursed for the expenses. Currently, cellular and wireless customers contribute to the E-9-1-1 fund, but only landline telephone service providers are entitled to reimbursement for implementation costs.

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PUBLIC 217 An Act To Strengthen Delivery of Electricity Conservation Programs

LD 231

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HALL	OTP-AM	S-88

Public Law 2003, chapter 217 requires that proportional equivalency in the Public Utilities Commission's conservation assessments on transmission and distribution utilities be based on a per-kilowatt-hour calculation rather than total transmission and distribution utility revenues.

PUBLIC 219 An Act To Encourage Energy Efficiency and Security

LD 352

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HALL BERRY	OTP-AM	S-87

Public Law 2003, chapter 219:

1. Requires the Public Utilities Commission, in adopting conservation programs, to seek to encourage efficiency in electricity use, provide incentives for the development of new, energy-efficient business activity in the State and take into account the costs and benefits of energy efficiency and conservation to existing business activity in the State; and
2. Requires the Public Utilities Commission to undertake an investigation to identify rate designs, mechanisms or other means that provide incentives for transmission and distribution utilities to promote energy efficiency and that promote the security and robustness of the electric grid. The Commission is required to submit its report to the Utilities and Energy Committee by February 1, 2004.

PUBLIC 267 An Act To Authorize Water and Wastewater Districts To Lease Their Assets

LD 1252

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCLAUGHLIN MAYO	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-316

Public Law 2003, chapter 267 provides that a consumer-owned water or wastewater district may enter into lease and leaseback transactions with respect to property other than land. It also defines leases to include leases of any length, including leases that may be defined as sales for income tax purposes.

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PUBLIC 272 **An Act To Ensure Proper Funding of the Public Utilities**
EMERGENCY **Commission and the Public Advocate**

LD 1042

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BLISS	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-319

Public Law 2003, chapter 272:

1. Authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to assess public utilities to fund the commission's budget on a going forward basis at the same rate as was authorized for the 2004 fiscal year;
2. Authorizes the Public Utilities Commission and the Public Advocate to carry forward 100% of unspent funds at the end of fiscal years 2003 and 2004;
3. Directs the Public Utilities Commission to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy by January 1, 2004 its activities for the prior fiscal year and its evaluation of the adequacy of the assessment and the appropriateness of the current apportionment of the assessment among utilities; and
4. Authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy to report out legislation relating to Public Utilities Commission assessment to the Second Regular Session of the 121st Legislature.

Public Law 2003, chapter 272 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 23, 2003.

PUBLIC 275 **An Act To Protect Conservation Trust Funds**

LD 805

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HALL	OTP-AM MAJ OTP-AM MIN	S-133

Public Law 2003, chapter 275 deems funds collected from electricity consumers pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3211-A to be held in trust for the purposes of benefiting electricity consumers. In the event these funds are not expended or contracted for expenditure within 2 years of being collected from consumers, the Public Utilities Commission is directed to return the value of those funds to consumers by reducing the assessment it collects from transmission and distribution utilities pursuant to Title 35-A, section 3211-A.

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PUBLIC 327 An Act to Control Internet "Spam"

LD 255

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOODWIN	OTP-AM MAJ	H-70
TREAT	ONTP MIN	

Public Law 2003, chapter 327 restricts unsolicited commercial e-mail ("spam"), defined as e-mail that is sent for the purpose of advertising or conveying information about real property, goods or services or extending credit or soliciting contributions, by requiring the e-mail to contain a valid return e-mail address maintained by the sender to which the recipient may respond indicating that the recipient does not wish to receive further unsolicited commercial e-mail from the sender. The restriction does not apply to e-mail sent to persons with whom the sender has a prior relationship or who have requested the information from the sender. Unsolicited commercial e-mail must include in the subject line a label, as specified, so that recipients are made aware of the nature of the e-mail. The law prohibits a person from sending an unsolicited commercial e-mail that uses another person's Internet address or domain name without permission or that contains false routing information. Each unsolicited commercial e-mail sent to a recipient in violation of this law is considered an unfair trade practice.

PUBLIC 359 An Act To Facilitate the Implementation, Maintenance and Operation of the E-9-1-1 Emergency System

LD 1423

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BLISS	OTP-AM	H-451
STRIMLING		

Public Law 2003, chapter 359:

1. Moves the Emergency Services Communication Bureau from the Department of Public Safety to the Public Utilities Commission;
2. Keeps the current surcharge at 50¢ per month per line or number by removing the "sunset" provision in current law that reduces the surcharge to 32¢ 90 days after the adjournment of the First Regular Session of the 121st Legislature; and
3. Directs the Emergency Services Communication Bureau to seek to reduce the total number of public service answering points (currently 48) to between 16 and 24.

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PUBLIC 412 An Act To Enhance Electric Utility Consumer Protections

LD 1595

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COLWELL HALL	OTP-AM	H-426

Public Law 2003, chapter 412 requires an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to adopt and ordinarily follow as a general operating policy a schedule of reading customer meters on a monthly basis. Any investor-owned transmission and distribution utility that plans to adopt a different policy, such as bimonthly meter reading, must receive prior approval of the commission.

PUBLIC 478 An Act To Facilitate E-9-1-1 for Multiline Telephone Systems

LD 1444

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BLISS HALL	OTP-AM	H-425

Public Law 2003, chapter 478 permits the Emergency Services Communications Bureau to adopt rules to establish requirements for locating emergency calls, and initiating emergency responses to such calls, made from within multiline telephone systems, including network-based or premises-based systems, whether owned or leased by a public or private entity, such as private branch exchanges or Centrex systems. The amendment establishes parameters for any such rules, makes them major substantive rules subject to legislative approval and requires them to be approved by the Public Utilities Commission prior to their submission to the Legislature.

PUBLIC 487 An Act To Strengthen the Energy Resources Council EMERGENCY

LD 669

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HALL	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-567 RICHARDSON J S-200

Public Law 2003, chapter 487 does the following:

1. It changes the funding support for the Energy Resources Council. Currently funding is provided by member agencies. This amendment directs the council to seek federal funding. To the extent such funding is insufficient, member agencies are directed to enter into an agreement to share the costs of staff. It also authorizes the council to seek, and the Public Utilities Commission to provide, up to \$200,000 from the conservation program fund to support legislatively directed activities of the council and projects generally consistent with the purposes of the program fund.

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2. It directs the council to undertake a study of energy-related policy and its implementation, with particular focus on energy efficiency and renewable energy. It provides for 4 members of the Legislature to be appointed to participate in the council's study.

Public Law 2003, chapter 487 is an emergency measure effective June 23, 2003.

PUBLIC 497 An Act To Promote Energy Conservation

LD 233

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STRIMLING	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	S-145

Public Law 2003, chapter 497:

1. Requires the State Board of Education, by July 1, 2004, to adopt rules regarding state-funded school construction to require planning and design for such construction to include a life-cycle cost analysis and an energy-use target that exceeds by at least 20% the energy efficiency values established in the state building energy standards;
2. Requires that approval by the State Board of Education of state-funded school construction be withheld unless the local school authority shows that it has duly considered the most energy-efficient and environmentally efficient designs suitable;
3. Requires the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services, by July 1, 2004, to adopt rules regarding state-funded construction to require planning and design for such construction to include a life-cycle cost analysis and an energy-use target that exceeds by at least 20% the energy efficiency values established in the state building energy standards;
4. Requires any agency responsible for approving state-funded construction to withhold such approval unless the agency or other entity proposing the construction can show that it has duly considered the most energy-efficient and environmentally efficient designs suitable; and
5. Directs the Public Utilities Commission, in consultation with the Energy Resources Council, to form a working group to review current state building energy standards and their enforcement and submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy and Utilities not later than February 1, 2004 and authorizes the committee to report out legislation on energy policy to the Second Regular Session of the 121st Legislature.

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PUBLIC 505 An Act To Improve the Ability of the Public Utilities Commission To Enforce State Laws, Rules and Requirements

LD 1483

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BLISS	OTP-AM MAJ	H-342
HALL	ONTP MIN	

Public Law 2003, chapter 505 changes most of the penalty provisions that apply to violations of laws administered by the Public Utilities Commission.

It repeals a variety of specific penalties related to violations of certain laws administered by the PUC; such violations, under the law, fall under new general penalties (see below). The law leaves in place current administrative penalties for certain violations. The law increases penalties that apply to violations by gas utilities and gas pipelines of safety laws, makes them administrative rather than civil, and adds more specificity to the factors to be weighed in determining the amount of a penalty. The law amends the “slamming” law to allow the PUC to order a telephone utility acting as billing agent to withhold payments to a suspected slammer pending administrative penalty proceedings. It also amends the “cramming” law to expand and change provisions relating to revocation of registration of a company that violates that law. The law allows the PUC to issue cease and desist orders under the dig safe law to prevent damage to underground facilities (currently the PUC can seek a temporary restraining order in court).

The law repeals the current general penalty provision (civil forfeiture of up to \$1,000/offense) that applies in cases in which a specific penalty for a violation is not otherwise specified. The law creates new general penalty provisions. It establishes a new Class C crime for knowingly making a false statement in a PUC proceeding. It establishes new and much more substantial administrative penalties (imposed and collected by the PUC) for violations of Title 35-A, PUC rules or PUC orders in cases where no other specific penalty is provided. The PUC is also authorized to order disgorgement of any profit or revenue resulting from any such violations. The law directs the PUC to take into account various factors in determining the amount of a penalty (e.g., severity of violation, intent, history of prior violations, etc.)

The law authorizes the PUC to suspend or revoke the authority of a public utility to provide service on a finding that the utility is unfit to provide adequate service, authorizes the PUC to order a person to cease and desist from providing service if person hasn’t obtained necessary PUC approvals, and allows the PUC to require an applicant to submit a bond as a condition for PUC approval of the applicant to provide public utility service

The law requires that all administrative penalties collected by the PUC are deposited in a reimbursement fund to pay the PUC’s costs of enforcement; excess funds go to the general fund.

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**PUBLIC 506
EMERGENCY**

An Act To Provide Energy Opportunities to Northern Maine

LD 163

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KNEELAND YOUNG	OTP-AM	S-290 CATHCART S-48

Public Law 2003, chapter 506 accomplishes the following:

1. Authorizes the Finance Authority of Maine to issue up to \$100,000,000 in moral obligation bonds to fund transmission facilities projects, including projects approved by the Northern Maine Transmission Corporation or other electric or gas transmission or energy generation facilities, to benefit northern Maine;
2. Establishes certain criteria for the issuance of such bonds, allows the Finance Authority of Maine to charge certain fees of applicants and requires electric transmission projects of 69 kilovolts or more to receive a certificate of public convenience and necessity from the Public Utilities Commission;
3. Expands the purposes of the Northern Maine Transmission Corporation to include financing, permitting, constructing, owning, operating or otherwise facilitating the construction or operation of facilities for the transmission of natural gas and generation or production and transfer of any other energy source in northern Maine;
4. Clarifies that the records of the Northern Maine Transmission Corporation are subject to the same confidentiality provisions as the records of the Finance Authority of Maine;
5. Authorizes the Northern Maine Transmission Corporation to adopt rules and enter into contracts; and
6. Allows the Public Utilities Commission to deny a certificate of public convenience and necessity for an electric transmission line proposed to be financed by the Northern Maine Transmission Corporation or the Finance Authority of Maine if the commission finds the line is reasonably likely to adversely affect any transmission and distribution utility or its ratepayers.

Public Law 2003, chapter 506 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 26, 2003.

P & S 9

An Act To Create the Bayside Utilities District

LD 1212

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ASH HATCH PH	OTP	

Private and Special Law 2003, chapter 9, if approved by local referendum, creates the Bayside Utilities District and allows the Northport Village Corporation to convey its water-related and sewer-related assets to the Bayside Utilities District.

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**P & S 10
EMERGENCY**

An Act to Address Funding of the North Jay Water District

LD 7

Sponsor(s)
PINEAU

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
H-111

Private and Special Law 2003, chapter 10 increases the debt limit of the North Jay Water District from \$500,000 to \$900,000.

Private and Special Law 2003, chapter 10 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 6, 2003.

**P & S 15
EMERGENCY**

An Act To Amend the Charter of the Lubec Water and Electric District

LD 678

Sponsor(s)
SHOREY

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
S-46

Private and Special Law 2003, chapter 15 amends the Charter of the Lubec Water and Electric District to take into account the sale of the district's electric business on August 1, 1990. The law also provides that a municipal officer of the Town of Lubec is not eligible to be a trustee of the district but removes the current ineligibility for holders of other town offices; provides that all voters in the district are eligible to vote in trustee elections; and provides that trustee elections are held at the annual town meeting of the Town of Lubec.

Private and Special Law 2003, chapter 15 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 13, 2003.

**P & S 16
EMERGENCY**

An Act To Amend the Charter of the Madawaska Water District

LD 967

Sponsor(s)
MARTIN
PARADIS

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
S-45

Private and Special Law 2003, chapter 16 authorizes a referendum within the Madawaska Water District to allow it to charge readiness-to-serve charges against properties abutting on or accessible to the water lines of the district that on or after January 1, 2004 are improved with new residential or commercial structures requiring systems for the disposal of sewage and wastewater but that do not connect to district's water lines.

Private and Special Law 2003, chapter 16 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 14, 2003.

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P & S 19

An Act To Revise the Charter of the Brunswick Sewer District

LD 655

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GERZOFSKY EDMONDS	OTP-AM	H-180

Private and Special Law 2003, chapter 19 extends the boundary limit of the Brunswick Sewer District to include the growth area defined by the growth/rural area boundary on the Town of Brunswick zoning map. It provides that the Town Council may expand the territory further to address threats to public health and safety. The law also amends the charter to make clear the trustees must comply with current law that requires the trustees to acquire written assurance from the town council that any sewer extension is in conformity with the Town of Brunswick Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance. That portion of the bill that expands the territory of the Brunswick Sewer District is subject to local referendum approval within the district.

P & S 25

An Act To Amend the Charter of the Baileyville Utilities District

LD 1608

EMERGENCY

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PERRY A	OTP-AM	H-424

Private and Special Law 2003, chapter 28 permits the Baileyville Utilities District to contract with the Town of Baileyville for the management, oversight and billing related to the town's sewer department.

Private and Special Law 2003, chapter 28 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 3, 2003.

P & S 26

An Act Repealing the Charter of the Brewer Water District

LD 1594

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	S-176

Private and Special 2003, chapter 26, as required by Private and Special Law 2001, chapter 66, dissolves the Brewer Water District. All powers, property and obligations of the Brewer Water District have been transferred to the City of Brewer pursuant to Private and Special Law 2001, chapter 66. The law preserves a provision from the charter of the former Brewer Water District relating to the water quality of Hatcase Pond.

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P & S 28
EMERGENCY

An Act to Amend the Charter of the New Portland Water District

LD 1620

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCGLOCKLIN HATCH PH	OTP-AM	H-530

Private and Special Law 2003, chapter 28 expands the territorial limits of the New Portland Water District, subject to local referendum approval.

Private and Special Law 2003, chapter 28 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 5, 2003.

RESOLVE 5 **Resolve, Regarding the Reduction of Barriers to the Transmission of Electricity**

LD 668

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HALL	OTP	

Resolves 2003, chapter 5 directs the Public Utilities Commission to work with the government of the Province of New Brunswick, Canada on ways to reduce or eliminate transaction costs and barriers to the free flow of electricity between Maine and Atlantic Canada.

RESOLVE 22 **Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 311: Eligible Resource Portfolio Requirements Rule Amendment, a Major Substantive Rule of the Public Utilities Commission**

LD 1495

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP	

Resolve 2003, chapter 22 approves Chapter 311: Eligible Resource Portfolio Requirements Rule Amendment, a major substantive rule of the Public Utilities Commission.

Resolve 2003, chapter 22 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 15, 2003.

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RESOLVE 45 Resolve, Relating to Renewable Resources

LD 1312

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COLWELL WESTON	OTP-AM	H-317

Resolve 2003, chapter 45 directs the Public Utilities Commission to examine mechanisms designed to ensure a secure, adequate and reliable supply of electricity for state residents and to maintain and increase the State's use of renewable and indigenous resources. The commission is directed to submit the results of its examination to the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy by December 31, 2003 and the committee is authorized to report out legislation in response to the commission's examination.

RESOLVE 46 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 306: Information EMERGENCY Disclosure Rule Amendment, a Major Substantive Rule of the Public Utilities Commission

LD 1494

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM	H-294

Resolve 2003, chapter 46 authorizes the adoption of Chapter 306: Information Disclosure Rule Amendment, a provisionally adopted major substantive rule of the Public Utilities Commission, if a provision is removed that provides that fuel cells and geothermal, solar, tidal and wind power are separately identified on the label only if contained in the competitive electricity provider's actual fuel mix. With this amendment, the rule will require separate identification of these fuel sources on the label, even if no such fuel sources are in the provider's actual fuel mix.

Resolve 2003, chapter 46 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 23, 2003.

RESOLVE 50 Resolve, To Encourage Use of Alternative Energy Sources

LD 1184

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HALL	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	S-132

Resolve 2003, chapter directs the Energy Resources Council, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection, to undertake a study of alternative transportation and heating fuels, alternatively fueled vehicles and biofuels and to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters with interim findings and recommendations by January 31, 2004 and with final recommendations by January 31, 2005. The reports must recommend production and usage goals for alternative transportation fuels and biofuels and recommend strategies for achieving those goals.

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RESOLVE 78 **Resolve, To Create the Study Group To Examine an Emergency**
EMERGENCY **Alert Notification System for Deaf and Hard-of-hearing Individuals**

LD 397

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
EDMONDS	OTP-AM	H-551 RICHARDSON J
KOFFMAN		S-40

Resolve 2003, chapter 78 establishes the Study Group to Examine an Emergency Alert Notification System for Deaf and Hard-of-hearing Individuals. The study group consists of 17 members and is chaired and staffed by the Maine Emergency Management Agency within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management. The study group is directed to invite the participation of any interested members of the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy. The Study Group is authorized to report out a single bill related to the study. The study group is not allowed to seek an extension of time to complete its study.

Resolve 2003, chapter 78 was enacted as an emergency effective June 17, 2003.